

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 200

By Ferguson

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Nancy-Ann DeParle on her appointment as director of the White House Office for Health Reform.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those Tennesseans who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves in public service to their state and nation; and

WHEREAS, it is with utmost pride and honor that we recognize and commend the accomplishments of Nancy-Ann Min DeParle, an outstanding Tennessean, who was recently appointed by President Barack Obama to serve as director of the White House Office for Health Reform; and

WHEREAS, Nancy-Ann Min DeParle was born in Cleveland, Ohio, but spent most of her early years in Rockwood, Tennessee, in Roane County; her mother, the late June Cooley Min, was a secretary for the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. DeParle received an Andy Holt scholarship to attend the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where she was an exceptional student and became the first woman elected as president of the student government association; selected as Omicron Delta Kappa's national "Leader of the Year" for 1978, and named one of *Glamour* magazine's "Top Ten College Women," she graduated with highest honors in 1978 with a B.A. degree in history; and

WHEREAS, selected as a Rhodes Scholar during her first year at Harvard Law School, Nancy-Ann DeParle went on to earn an Honors B.A. degree in politics, philosophy, and economics from Balliol College, Oxford University, England, in 1981; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. DeParle returned to Harvard and completed her doctor of jurisprudence degree in 1983; after law school she was chosen for a prestigious clerkship on the 6th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, which covers Tennessee, Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio, then returned to Oxford University to earn a master's degree in 1986; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, while working as an attorney with Bass, Berry, and Sims in Nashville, Governor Ned McWherter tapped her to head the Tennessee Department of Human Services office, an agency of 6,000 employees that determined Medicaid eligibility and provided food stamps and child welfare services to more than a million Tennesseans every year; and

WHEREAS, Nancy-Ann DeParle resumed her private legal practice in Nashville in 1989, and in September of 1991 she moved to Washington, D.C., to join the law firm of Covington & Burling; and

WHEREAS, little more than a year later, Mrs. DeParle, thirty-six years old at the time, was named the associate director for Health and Personnel at the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB), serving as the OMB's representative on health care reform for President Bill Clinton's administration; in 1994, *Time* magazine named her one of "America's 50 Most Promising Leaders Under 40"; and

WHEREAS, in July of 1997 she transferred to the Department of Health and Human Services as deputy director and later served as administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration, which is now known as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; she held this post for three years until becoming a fellow of the Institute of Politics and the Interfaculty Health Policy Forum at Harvard University; and

WHEREAS, entering the private sector, Nancy-Ann DeParle next became a senior advisor to JPMorgan Partners, LLC, in Washington, D.C., and also accepted a post as an adjunct professor of Health Care Systems at the Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania, where she focused on health policy; and

WHEREAS, over the next few years, she took seats on prominent boards, including Medco Health Solutions, the Cerner Corporation, Boston Scientific, Legacy Hospital Partners, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the DaVita Corporation, and Triad Hospitals, to name but a few; and

WHEREAS, she also served on the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC), the independent committee that advises Congress on issues related to Medicare policy and payment issues; and

WHEREAS, her many professional accomplishments aside, Nancy-Ann DeParle is perhaps most appreciative of the love and companionship she shares with her husband, Jason

DeParle, who is an author and *New York Times* senior writer, and she is the proud mother of two sons; and

WHEREAS, a highly sought-after corporate, academic, and foundation consultant, Nancy-Ann DeParle is uniquely qualified for her new post as director of the White House Office for Health Reform, a position in which she will help craft and promote the ambitious effort to revamp the nation's health care system to both extend access and control runaway costs; and

WHEREAS, Nancy-Ann DeParle is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and she is to be especially commended for her many years of honorable and astute service to the citizens of Tennessee and this nation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Nancy-Ann Min DeParle on her appointment by President Barack Obama to serve as director of the White House Office for Health Reform, and we extend to her our best wishes as she delves into the complicated issues facing the United States in these challenging times.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.